

**TOWN OF UNDERHILL
SELECTBOARD SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
JOINT MEETING WITH TOWN OF JERICHO SELECTBOARD
@ UJFD Stationhouse, 420 VT Route 15, Underhill
7:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 10, 2014**

Underhill Selectboard: Seth Friedman, David Rogers and Cliff Peterson

Jericho Selectboard: Catherine McMains (via conf. call), Kim Mercer and Tim Nulty

Underhill Town Staff: Brian Bigelow

Public: Mat Champlin, Todd Fischer, Randy Clark Sr., Tim Clark, Greg Leech, Harry Schoppmann, Dan Champlin, Loni Morse, Todd Hallock, Sean McCann, Kitty Clark and Dwight DeCoster

7:13 p.m. Meeting called to order.

7:14 p.m. **Public Comment** – None.

7:15 p.m. **Presentation of UJFD FY15-16 Budget -**

Mat Champlin, UJFD 1st Assistant Chief presented the department's:

- 2013-2014 Preliminary Budget Report and 2015-2016 Budget Request,
- Reserve Account Statement, and,
- Rivers Land Account Statement.

Overall budget increase of 2.7% with total Budget Expense equaling \$544,480. Mat Champlin addressed individual lines items that had the greatest changes from the prior year. Questions regarding individual transactions related to the various reserve accounts were explained by Mat Champlin and included in a series of footnotes on the Reserve Account Statement.

Additional discussion ensued about future Capital purchases and each Town's interest in keeping their total annual budgets below a 3% increase. In addition they forecast that economic reality to continue for perhaps five years.

The example of a prospective ladder truck purchase was discussed. The potential for denser and taller buildings coupled with modern lightweight truss construction may drive the need for that type of equipment to continue to provide a high level of fire protection service while ensuring the safety of first responders.

Randy Clark Sr. explained how the UJFD's ability to provide the level of service that they do is paid back in full in most cases as homeowner's insurance savings is typically a multiple of the individual homeowner's share of the costs required to fund the UJFD.

The department, while desirous of Selectboard approval, understands the Towns' budget process is ongoing and in the end dependent of Town Meeting Day outcomes.

Cliff Peterson moved that the Town of Underhill make a FY15-16 contribution to the Underhill Jericho Fire Department in an amount not to exceed \$216,122. David Rogers seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

The Jericho Selectboard approved a similar motion in the amount of \$324,168.

8:14 p.m. Member Items, Correspondence, Announcements, Schedule.

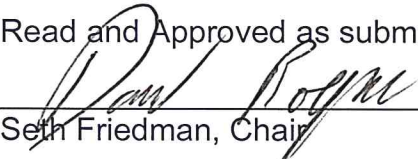
The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Underhill Selectboard is December 23, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. A Special Selectboard Meeting has been scheduled for December 17th at 8:30 a.m.

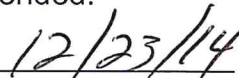
8:15 p.m. Adjournment.

David Rogers moved to adjourn. Cliff Peterson seconded and the motion passed 3-0.

Submitted by Brian Bigelow, Town Administrator

Read and Approved as submitted/amended.


Seth Friedman, Chair


Date